The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Karen Anderson, Mike Walstead, Steve Wyum and Don Wehlander. Absent Ray Brockman.

Approve June 15, 2004 minutes as corrected. (Wehlander/Anderson, unanimous)

Glen Hangaard has been hired as a part-time road employee at a rate of \$9.00 per hour. He began work today.

Don Wehlander reported that crop damage has occurred on Co. # 14 by the county weed department. He will talk to Ray Brockman.

Lyle Bopp arrived at the meeting at 9:35 to discuss a letter received by the Board from Mary Jo Solid, North Fond du Lac, WI. Norm Preble, Tax Director was also present. Ms. Solid asked the commission to approve sale of the SW1/4-25-130-56 to US Fish and Wildlife Service. She stated in the letter that adjacent property was sold to the USFW Service for a Waterfowl Production Area and she feels the benefit to the environment and wildlife in perpetuity is far greater than the loss of revenue from property taxes. Deny request to sell this land to US Fish and Wildlife based on information that the formula currently being used does not adequately compensate the county for loss of taxes. (Wehlander/Anderson. Roll call. Yes: Wehlander, Anderson, Walstead, and Wyum. No none. Motion carried)

Mike Walstead reported on the courthouse renovation project. Painting is near completion and the windows were ordered last week and will be installed late September or early October. Lamppost lights for each side of the front door were discussed and samples received from the architect. The front step replacement project will include a water line to heat the steps and keep them dry during the winter. Also, possibly adding color to the concrete for the steps to match the bottom bricks on the courthouse at an additional cost of \$650.

Julie Hassebroek, Extension Agent and Kristi Ross, Columbia Co., New York arrived at the meeting. Ms. Ross accompanied 10 4-H'ers from New York to spend a week in Sargent County and learn about the culture of the county. They are staying with host families and will return to NY on July 9th.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

STEVEN R. WYUM – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR